

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A document processing apparatus comprising:
2 a display;
3 a plurality of user-accessible input points configured to generate input point
4 signals in response to being accessed by a user;
5 an electronic readable memory device comprising descriptions of selected
6 ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points in a plurality of languages; and
7 a processor configured to associate an input point signal from an input point
8 with a corresponding description of the input point in a preselected one of the
9 plurality of languages and to display the description on the display.

1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, and further wherein the display is
2 configured to display the description in a dot matrix text format.

1 3. The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein:
2 the electronic readable memory device is characterized by memory address
3 locations;
4 descriptions of the user-accessible input points are associated with selected
5 memory address locations;
6 the memory address locations of the preselected language are stored in a
7 separate description memory address location; and
8 the processor is configured to associate the descriptions of the input points
9 by accessing the description memory address location.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 3, and further comprising an access
2 connection in communication with the processor, the access connection configured
3 to receive signals from an external access device to thereby store the memory
4 address locations of the preselected language in the separate description memory
5 address location, and wherein the external access device does not comprise part
6 of the document processing apparatus, and further wherein the memory address
7 locations of the preselected language can only be stored in the separate description
8 memory address location by the external access device.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an electronic timer,
2 and wherein:

3 in response to being accessed by a user, an input point generates the input
4 point signal for a duration of time equal to the time the input point is accessed;
5 the electronic timer is configured to measure the duration of time the input
6 point is accessed;
7 and, the processor is further configured to associate the input point signal
8 with the corresponding description of the input point in the preselected language
9 when a preselected duration of time is measured by the timer.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein one of the selected ones of the
2 user input points comprises a user assist input point, and wherein the
3 corresponding description of the user assist input point in the preselected language
4 is a message informing the user how to access descriptions of the remaining
5 selected ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6, and further wherein the processor is
2 configured such that, when the user assist input point and one of the remaining
3 selected ones of the input points are simultaneously accessed by a user, the
4 description in the preselected language which is displayed by the processor is the
5 description of the one of the remaining selected ones of the input points.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an electronic timer,
2 and wherein the electronic timer is configured to measure the duration of time the
3 description of the input point is displayed, and the processor is further configured
4 to stop the display of the description when a preselected duration of time is
5 measured by the timer.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an access
2 connection in communication with the processor, the access connection configured
3 to receive signals from an external access device to thereby determine the
4 preselected language.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein the selected ones of the user
2 input points are defined by a first group of user input points and a second group of
3 user input points, and wherein the first group of user input points comprises a first
4 user assist input point, the second group of user input points comprises a second
5 user assist input point, and wherein the corresponding description of the first user
6 assist input point in the preselected language is a message particular to the first
7 group of user input points, and the corresponding description of the second user
8 assist input point in the preselected language is a message particular to the second
9 group of user input points.

1 11. A method for displaying local language descriptions of a plurality of
2 user accessible input points of a document processing apparatus, comprising:
3 providing, on a machine readable medium and in the local language, a
4 plurality of descriptions of user input points corresponding to the plurality of user
5 accessible input points; and
6 in response to a user accessing an input point, accessing the local language
7 description of the user input point which corresponds to the user input point, and
8 displaying to the user the local language description of the user input point.

1 12. The method of claim 11, and further comprising providing a plurality
2 of descriptions of the user input points in a plurality of languages; and
3 selecting the local language descriptions of the user input points as
4 descriptions to be accessed in response to a user accessing an input point.

1 13. The method of claim 11, and wherein the local language description
2 of the user input point is only displayed after the user has accessed the user input
3 point for a predetermined period of time.

1 14. The method of claim 11, and further comprising ceasing to display to
2 the user the local language description of the user input point after a predetermined
3 period of time.

1 15. The method of claim 11, and further comprising ceasing to display to
2 the user the local language description of the user input point when the user
3 accesses another user input point.

1 16. The method of claim 11, and further comprising:
2 designating a selected one of the user input points as a user assist input
3 point; and
4 wherein the description of the user assist input point comprises instructions
5 to the user for accessing descriptions of the remaining user input points.

1 17. The method of claim 16, and wherein, when a user input point other
2 than the user assist input point is accessed by the user, the local language
3 description of the user input point is displayed only after the user has accessed the
4 user input point for a predetermined period of time, and when a user simultaneously
5 accesses the user assist input point and a second user input point, the description
6 displayed is the local language description of the second user input point.

1 18. A document processing apparatus comprising:
2 a display;
3 a plurality of user-accessible input points configured to generate input point
4 signals in response to being accessed by a user;
5 an electronic readable memory device comprising descriptions of selected
6 ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points in a local language; and
7 a processor configured to associate an input point signal from an input point
8 with a corresponding description of the input point in the local language and to
9 display the description on the display.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18, and wherein each of the selected ones of
2 the user input points are identified to the user by a corresponding marking in
3 proximity to the associated user input point, and wherein the markings are not local
4 language descriptions of the user input points.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 18, and wherein one of the selected ones of
2 the user input points comprises a user assist input point, and wherein the
3 corresponding description of the user assist input point in the local language is a
4 message informing the user how to access local language descriptions of the
5 remaining selected ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points.